



DOCKET NO: 214330US0CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

TAKAHIRO OSUMI, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: TRAN, SUSAN T.

SERIAL NO: 09/986,538 :

FILED: NOVEMBER 9, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1615

FOR: KERATOTIC PLUG REMOVER :

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Response to Rule 312 Communication dated October 25, 2004, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of the AO reference (i.e. JP8245340) cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 3, 2004, by initialing the associated Form PTO-1449.

The Response to Rule 312 Communication dated October 25, 2004, states:

The information disclosure statement filed 09/03/04 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because the patent number and the date on the translation were blacked out.

Applicants respectfully traverse this assertion. The attached summary of the Public PAIR Image File Wrapper for the above-identified application shows that on September 3, 2004, Applicants filed an "Information Disclosure Statement" and a "Foreign Reference". The "Information Disclosure Statement" and "Foreign Reference" are attached. The "Foreign Reference" shows that (i) the patent number and publication date are not blacked out on the

English-language abstract corresponding to the AO reference and (ii) the patent number and the publication date appear on the first page of the Japanese-language AO reference.

Because the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 3, 2004, met the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97, 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609, Applicants are entitled to have the AO reference considered by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully petition that the Examiner initial her consideration of the AO reference on the associated Form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



J. Derek Mason, Ph.D.  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 35,270

Corwin P. Umbach, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 40,211

Attachments:

Summary of Public PAIR Image File Wrapper for Application No. 09/986,538  
"Information Disclosure Statement" filed September 3, 2004 (Public PAIR Image File Wrapper)  
"Foreign Reference" filed September 3, 2004 (Public PAIR Image File Wrapper)

Customer Number

**22850**

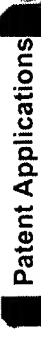
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09/986,538 KERATOTIC PLUG REMOVER

Application Data	Transaction History	Image File Wrapper	Patent Term Adjustments	Continuity Data	Foreign Priority	Published Documents	Publication Dates	Address & Attorney/Agent
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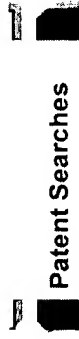
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10-19-2004	Foreign Reference	18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
09-03-2004	Issue Fee Payment Recorded	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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











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